

Subbaccalaureate persistence and attainment

About half of first-time beginning students report working toward either an associate's degree or a certificate. These subbaccalaureate programs can offer occupationally specific training for immediate transition into the labor market or serve as a stepping stone to bachelor's degree programs. To help ensure successful outcomes for the increasing number of students seeking these credentials, it is crucial to understand the particular enrollment patterns associated with their completion.

- Forty-three percent of 1989–90 beginning postsecondary students seeking an associate's degree had attained some degree or certificate 5 years after initial enrollment: 8 percent earned a bachelor's degree; slightly less than a quarter (23.7 percent) earned an associate's degree; and 11 percent earned a certificate. Students who did not earn a degree were enrolled for an average of 19 months.
- Certificate seekers were more likely than associate's degree seekers to attain a postsecondary credential (55 versus 43 percent, respectively). Within 5 years of initial enrollment in postsecondary education, half (50 percent) had earned a certificate, and 4 percent had earned an associate's degree. Students who had not earned a credential were enrolled an average of 11 months.
- Regardless of initial degree objective, students who enrolled full time were more likely to attain either the degree they sought or a bachelor's degree than those who were enrolled less than full time.
- Associate's degree seekers who delayed entry into postsecondary education by at least 1 year were much less likely to complete an associate's or bachelor's degree within 5 years than their counterparts who did not delay.

Percentage distribution of 1989–90 beginning postsecondary students seeking an associate's degree or certificate, by persistence and attainment as of spring 1994 and selected enrollment characteristics

Enrollment characteristics	Completed a degree				Did not complete a degree					Average months enrolled
	Highest degree completed			Total any degree	Total no degree	Number of months enrolled ¹				
	Bachelor's	Associate's	Certificate			Less than 9 months	9–18 months	19–27 months	28 months or more	
Degree working toward in 1989–90 ²										
Associate's degree	7.5	23.7	11.4	42.6	57.4	12.8	20.5	9.4	14.8	19.2
Certificate	0.5	4.3	49.7	54.5	45.5	22.7	15.7	4.4	2.8	10.5
Enrollment status, first term										
Full-time										
Associate's degree	12.0	30.0	9.7	51.6	48.4	9.4	17.6	9.9	11.5	19.0
Certificate	0.7	4.5	56.3	61.5	38.5	23.1	11.6	1.8	2.0	8.8
Less than full-time										
Associate's degree	2.1	15.5	13.1	30.7	69.3	16.5	23.7	9.2	20.0	20.0
Certificate	0.0	2.8	38.5	41.4	58.7	22.8	23.8	7.5	4.5	12.3
Delayed entry status ³										
Did not delay										
Associate's degree	11.9	32.1	10.0	54.0	46.0	9.1	13.4	7.6	16.0	22.5
Certificate	0.9	8.2	49.8	58.9	41.1	15.4	15.8	5.8	4.1	13.2
Delayed entry by at least 1 year										
Associate's degree	1.4	12.2	12.9	26.5	73.5	18.7	26.5	13.2	15.2	17.0
Certificate	0.2	2.9	51.2	54.3	45.7	24.7	15.2	3.3	2.5	9.9

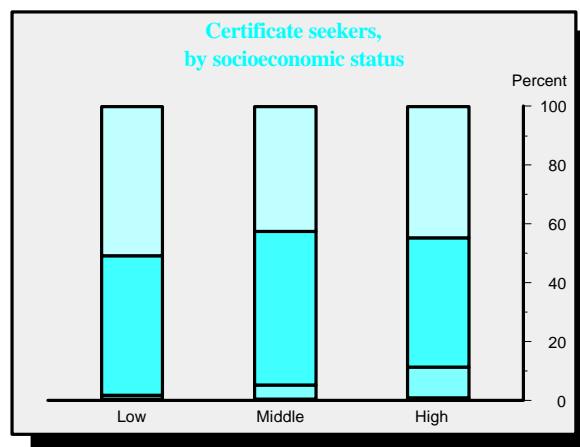
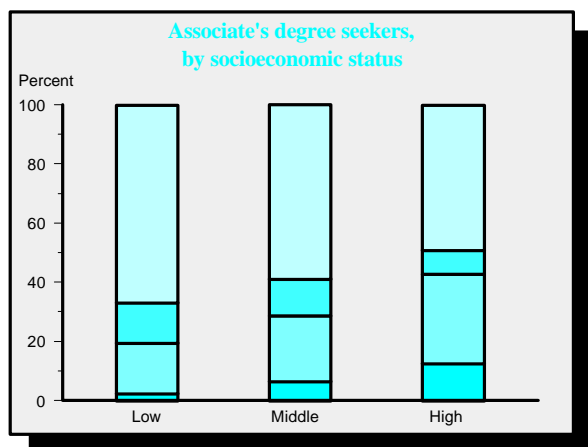
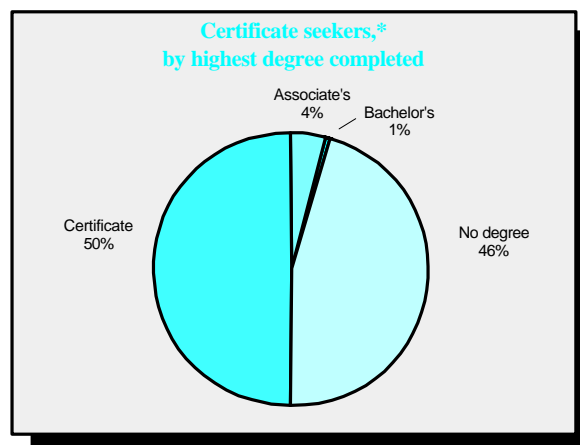
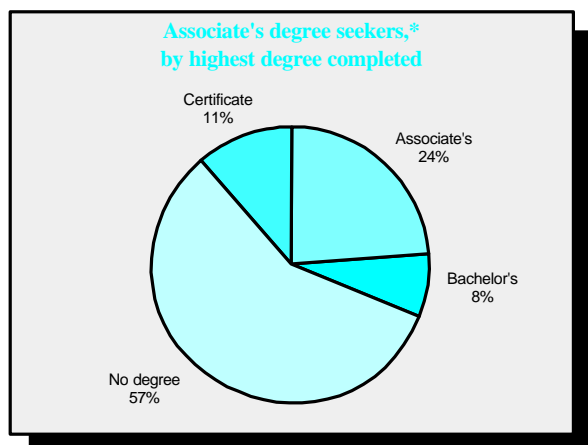
¹ Includes students who were still enrolled.

² Limited to students seeking an associate's degree at 2-year institutions and students seeking a certificate at 2-year and less-than-2-year institutions.

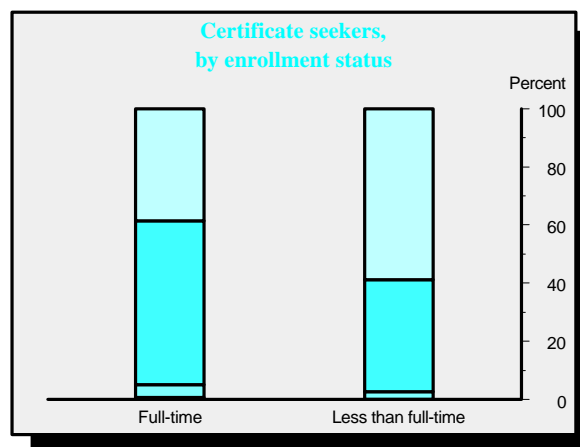
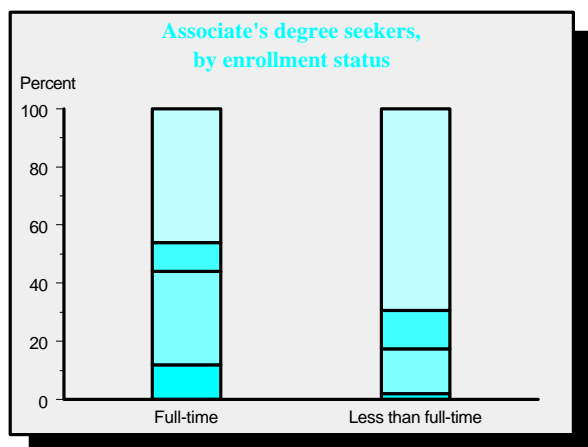
³ Excludes students with no high school diploma.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1990 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS: 90/94).

Percentage of 1989–90 postsecondary students seeking an associate's degree or certificate according to highest degree completed as of spring 1994



■ Bachelor's ■ Associate's ■ Certificate ■ No degree



* Limited to students seeking an associate's degree at 2-year institutions and students seeking a certificate at 2-year and less-than-2-year institutions.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1990 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:90/94).

Notes on Postsecondary Persistence and Degree Completion

This indicator was constructed using data from the 1990 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study (BPS:90/94). BPS is based on a subsample of the 1990 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:90), which consists of students beginning their postsecondary education for the first time at community colleges, vocational schools, and institutions granting bachelor's degrees during the 1989–90 academic year. The BPS First Follow-up was conducted in the spring of 1992, 2 years following the students' entry into postsecondary education, and the Second Follow-up was conducted during the spring of 1994. BPS provides detailed information regarding individual students' attendance patterns for 5 years following their first enrollment into postsecondary education. (For more information on the BPS follow-up surveys, see entries in the data sources section.)

The indicator examines persistence toward and completion of postsecondary degrees for students whose initial postsecondary degree objective was an associate's degree and who were initially enrolled at 2-year institutions and for students seeking a postsecondary certificate who were initially enrolled at either a 2-year or less-than 2-year institution. Whether the student was seeking an associate's degree or a certificate was determined by their response to the question "Toward which degree or other award are the courses you are taking leading?"

In constructing the indicator, students were first divided into two broad categories: those who completed a postsecondary degree and those who did not. Students who had completed a degree or certificate were categorized according to the highest degree attained. The remaining students who after 5 years had not completed a degree (bachelor's degree, associate's degree, or certificate) or were still enrolled, were categorized according to the number of months they were (have been) enrolled in postsecondary education. It is important to note that the number of months enrolled are not necessarily continuous months; therefore, they cannot be used as an indicator of when the student left postsecondary education. Rather, presenting the data in this manner is designed to give the reader a measure of the potential benefit derived from postsecondary attendance, even without having completed a degree.

Table 11-1 Percentage distribution of 1989–90 beginning postsecondary students seeking an associate's degree at 2-year institutions, by persistence and attainment as of spring 1994 and selected characteristics

Selected characteristics	Completed a degree				Total no degree	Did not complete a degree				Average months enrolled
	Highest degree complete			Total any degree		Number of months enrolled ¹				
	Bach- elor's	Asso- ciate's	Certi- ficate			Less than 9 months	9–18 months	19–27 months or more		
Total ²	7.5	23.7	11.4	42.6	57.4	12.8	20.5	9.4	14.8	19.2
Sex										
Male	6.2	20.1	13.6	39.9	60.1	13.6	19.7	10.2	16.7	20.3
Female	8.6	26.6	9.7	44.8	55.2	12.2	21.1	8.7	13.2	18.3
Age as of 12/31/89										
18 years or younger	15.2	34.2	7.8	57.2	42.9	7.7	12.8	8.2	14.2	21.8
19 years	1.5	22.4	13.2	37.1	62.9	16.8	19.5	7.4	19.2	20.3
20 years or older	1.6	11.9	14.8	28.3	71.7	16.7	30.2	11.7	13.1	16.9
Race/ethnicity										
American Indian/Alaskan Native	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Black	5.7	16.1	18.1	39.9	60.1	18.4	20.5	11.9	9.3	17.9
Hispanic	8.9	22.4	9.8	41.0	59.0	1.9	25.9	13.5	17.7	—
White	7.6	24.6	10.8	43.1	57.0	13.7	19.8	8.4	15.1	18.9
Marital status in 1989–90										
Never married	9.3	26.9	10.6	46.7	53.3	10.8	17.8	8.8	15.8	20.2
Married	3.7	17.9	12.4	33.9	66.1	17.1	28.7	8.8	11.5	15.6
Divorced/separated/widowed	0.0	4.1	24.8	28.9	71.1	24.5	23.8	10.7	9.1	—
Number of children in 1989–90										
None	9.0	25.8	9.7	44.5	55.5	12.2	18.1	9.6	15.7	20.1
One	0.5	16.6	20.2	37.3	62.7	17.0	32.2	3.9	9.6	—
Two	1.2	11.3	13.8	26.3	73.7	7.7	41.6	13.8	10.7	—
Three or more	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Socioeconomic status										
Lowest quartile	2.4	17.1	13.7	33.2	66.8	19.2	27.0	5.7	14.9	17.2
Middle two quartiles	6.4	22.3	12.5	41.2	58.8	12.4	20.4	10.9	15.2	19.4
Highest quartile	12.6	30.2	8.1	50.9	49.1	9.8	16.8	8.7	13.9	20.4
Income										
Dependent										
Less than \$20,000	7.7	25.7	11.1	44.5	55.5	13.3	19.1	6.5	16.6	19.6
20,000–39,999	11.0	27.1	11.4	49.5	50.5	14.3	13.8	11.3	11.2	18.9
40,000–59,999	13.7	32.1	10.4	56.2	43.9	7.0	16.3	5.9	14.6	21.3
60,000 or more	7.2	30.9	3.1	41.2	58.8	4.4	17.9	13.2	23.3	25.5
Independent	1.8	13.8	14.3	29.9	70.1	16.6	28.7	10.3	14.5	17.3
Parental educational attainment										
Less than high school	1.7	16.3	12.0	30.0	70.0	13.2	28.0	15.5	13.4	18.1
High school graduate	8.4	20.1	11.5	40.0	60.0	15.3	19.8	12.1	12.8	15.5
Some postsecondary	8.5	28.7	8.7	46.0	54.1	9.2	22.7	8.9	13.3	18.0
Bachelor's degree	5.6	36.0	18.0	59.6	40.4	8.9	13.1	2.8	15.6	20.4
Advanced degree	12.5	31.5	2.3	46.3	53.7	6.2	16.8	5.1	25.7	27.9

Table 11-1 Percentage distribution of 1989–90 beginning postsecondary students seeking an associate's degree at 2-year institutions, by persistence and attainment as of spring 1994 and selected characteristics - Continued

Selected characteristics	Completed a degree				Total no degree	Did not complete a degree				Average months enrolled
	Highest degree complete			Total any degree		Number of months enrolled ¹				
	Bach- elor's	Asso- ciate's	Certi- ficate			Less than 9 months	9–18 months	19–27 months or more		
High school diploma or equivalency status										
High school diploma	8.1	24.8	11.1	43.9	56.1	12.6	18.2	9.6	15.7	19.8
GED/Equivalency certificate	1.6	12.2	15.4	29.1	70.9	14.8	44.5	6.9	4.8	14.1
None	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diploma/delayed entry status ²										
Diploma, did not delay	11.9	32.1	10.0	54.0	46.0	9.1	13.4	7.6	16.0	22.5
Diploma, delayed entry	1.4	12.2	12.9	26.5	73.5	18.7	26.5	13.2	15.2	17.0
No diploma	1.6	12.2	15.4	29.1	70.9	14.8	44.5	6.9	4.8	14.1
Expected educational attainment										
Less than 2 years of postsecondary education	1.2	21.5	13.3	36.0	64.0	18.1	28.6	3.6	13.8	17.1
2 to 3 years postsecondary education	2.2	18.2	13.9	34.3	65.7	13.8	22.9	10.1	18.9	19.2
Bachelor's degree or higher	10.1	26.4	10.6	47.1	52.9	10.9	19.1	9.3	13.7	19.7
Enrollment status, first term										
Full-time	12.0	30.0	9.7	51.6	48.4	9.4	17.6	9.9	11.5	19.0
Less than full-time	2.1	15.5	13.1	30.7	69.3	16.5	23.7	9.2	20.0	20.0
Enrollment status in 1989–90										
Exclusively part-time	1.5	12.8	9.4	23.6	76.4	15.8	30.2	12.5	18.0	18.7
Mixed	6.6	35.1	11.3	53.0	47.0	0.0	20.1	6.4	20.5	—
Exclusively full-time	12.0	29.3	11.7	52.9	47.1	7.9	16.1	9.3	13.8	21.2
Field of study in 1989–90										
Humanities and social sciences	11.0	32.7	9.3	53.0	47.0	6.6	15.7	9.3	15.5	24.3
Physical and life sciences	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Engineering, math, and computer	3.4	15.2	15.4	34.0	66.0	15.2	27.6	4.4	18.9	20.0
Education	16.7	37.7	4.7	59.1	40.9	7.8	3.0	24.7	5.5	—
Business and management	7.3	22.4	10.2	39.9	60.2	6.9	27.3	10.0	16.0	19.7
Health	4.7	24.4	25.6	54.7	45.3	0.0	17.1	11.4	16.9	—
Vocational/technical	5.5	25.2	11.2	41.9	58.1	9.4	24.2	9.8	14.6	18.4
Employed while enrolled ³										
None	3.1	19.9	14.0	37.0	63.0	27.2	16.7	15.3	3.8	18.8
1–50 percent	8.4	30.7	21.0	60.1	39.9	4.5	16.7	5.3	13.5	26.0
More than 50 percent	7.9	22.6	9.3	39.7	60.3	13.4	21.8	9.1	16.0	24.9
Hours worked per week while enrolled										
None	5.6	21.1	19.5	46.2	53.8	14.1	12.6	15.5	11.7	17.7
1–20 hours	11.4	30.9	14.0	56.3	43.7	5.3	17.2	6.3	14.9	23.0
More than 20 hours	6.9	22.3	8.6	37.8	62.2	14.6	23.5	8.7	15.5	18.8
Received financial aid in 1989–90										
No	6.5	21.2	12.1	39.8	60.2	14.8	20.3	10.0	15.1	18.9
Yes	9.4	28.3	10.2	47.9	52.1	9.1	20.7	8.2	14.2	19.9

Table 11-1 Percentage distribution of 1989–90 beginning postsecondary students seeking an associate's degree at 2-year institutions, by persistence and attainment as of spring 1994 and selected characteristics - Continued

Selected characteristics	Completed a degree				Total no degree	Did not complete a degree				Average months enrolled
	Highest degree complete			Total any degree		Number of months enrolled ¹				
	Bach- elor's	Asso- ciate's	Certi- ficate			Less than 9 months	9–18 months	19–27 months or more		
Received grant in 1989–90										
No	6.4	22.1	11.7	40.1	59.9	15.1	20.7	9.9	14.2	18.5
Yes	10.1	27.4	10.8	48.3	51.7	7.7	19.9	8.1	16.0	21.0
Received loan in 1989–90										
No	7.8	22.4	12.0	42.2	57.8	13.2	19.5	9.8	15.4	19.6
Yes	5.2	34.2	7.2	46.6	53.4	9.7	28.2	6.2	9.4	15.8
Grade point average in 1989–90										
Below 2.75	8.4	18.8	11.8	38.9	61.1	13.4	20.0	12.5	15.3	19.8
2.75 to 3.24	8.1	26.2	5.8	40.1	59.9	9.2	26.9	8.4	15.4	19.8
3.25 or higher	9.5	30.4	14.1	54.0	46.0	8.2	18.6	5.5	13.7	19.2
Academic integration in 1989–90 ²										
Low	1.6	13.1	8.6	23.2	76.8	26.5	24.5	0.9	25.0	17.5
Moderate	9.3	20.0	11.3	40.6	59.4	13.9	22.6	11.5	11.4	17.8
High	7.8	30.0	12.1	49.9	50.1	8.4	18.1	9.2	14.5	21.1
Social integration in 1989–90 ³										
Low	3.9	11.7	8.4	24.0	76.0	19.8	28.9	10.1	17.2	17.3
Moderate	7.6	25.8	12.4	45.8	54.2	11.8	18.2	10.0	14.3	19.5
High	11.7	30.7	11.7	54.2	45.8	8.9	18.9	6.0	12.0	20.8
Self rating of academic ability										
Above average	10.9	28.9	15.4	55.2	44.8	9.6	11.6	5.8	17.8	22.9
Average or below	6.5	21.7	9.8	38.0	62.0	14.2	23.9	10.3	13.6	18.2

¹ Includes students who are still enrolled.

² Limited to students seeking an associate's degree at 2-year institutions.

³ Students were considered to have a diploma only if they had a regular high school diploma. Students with a GED or other high school credentials were considered to have no diploma.

⁴ Percentage of months enrolled in which the student was also employed in 1989–94.

⁵ Examines whether the student attended career-related lectures, participated in study groups with other students, talked about academic matters with faculty, or met with an advisor concerning academic plans.

⁶ Examines whether the students had contact with faculty outside of class, went places with friends from school, or participated in student assistance centers/programs or school clubs.

NOTE: The number of total cases in a row is used as the denominator in the calculation of the percentage distribution, whereas the number of cases within the cell is used as the denominator in the calculation of averages. If the number of cases in the cell is below 30, a low number will result, despite available estimates for the row as a whole.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1990 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:90/94).

Table 11-2 Percentage distribution of 1989–90 beginning postsecondary students seeking a certificate at 2-year and less-than-2-year institutions, by persistence and attainment as of spring 1994 and selected characteristics

Selected characteristics	Completed a degree				Did not complete a degree					
	Highest degree complete			Total any degree	Total no degree	Number of months enrolled ¹				Average months enrolled
	Bach- elor's	Asso- ciate's	Certi- ficate			Less than 9 months	9–18 months	19–27 months or more		
Total ²	0.5	4.3	49.7	54.5	45.5	22.7	15.7	4.4	2.8	10.5
Sex										
Male	0.2	2.7	49.3	52.2	47.8	28.7	12.4	5.3	1.4	8.6
Female	0.7	5.3	49.9	55.9	44.1	19.0	17.7	3.8	3.7	11.8
Age as of 12/31/89										
18 years or younger	1.0	8.7	43.1	52.8	47.2	18.7	16.4	7.8	4.2	12.9
19 years	0.3	3.2	62.3	65.7	34.3	14.9	13.9	3.6	1.8	10.7
20 years or older	0.3	2.5	50.0	52.7	47.3	26.4	15.7	2.9	2.3	9.3
Race/ethnicity										
American Indian/Alaskan Na	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Black	0.8	2.3	37.3	40.4	59.6	25.4	25.8	3.4	5.0	11.7
Hispanic	1.8	1.2	62.9	65.9	34.1	16.0	3.7	13.0	1.4	14.2
White	0.3	5.4	49.5	55.2	44.8	23.2	15.8	3.8	2.0	9.4
Marital status in 1989–90										
Never married	0.7	5.4	49.3	55.4	44.7	20.0	16.3	5.7	2.7	11.2
Married	0.3	1.5	50.9	52.7	47.3	26.3	14.9	1.7	4.4	9.9
Divorced/separated/widow	0.0	3.3	51.0	54.2	45.8	26.4	16.8	2.3	0.3	8.5
Number of children in 1989–90										
None	0.5	6.0	49.1	55.7	44.3	20.1	16.8	5.1	2.3	10.9
One	0.5	2.7	49.9	53.0	47.0	22.6	13.5	5.4	5.5	12.5
Two	0.0	1.9	45.9	47.8	52.3	35.7	12.0	3.4	1.2	7.8
Three or more	1.4	1.7	51.5	54.6	45.4	18.2	21.3	0.7	5.3	—
Socioeconomic status										
Lowest quartile	0.5	1.3	47.6	49.4	50.6	26.6	15.6	5.1	3.3	10.7
Middle two quartiles	0.4	4.8	52.3	57.5	42.5	22.9	14.1	2.8	2.8	10.0
Highest quartile	0.8	10.4	44.1	55.4	44.6	11.4	22.8	9.2	1.2	12.1
Income										
Dependent										
Less than \$20,000	0.0	7.1	52.9	59.9	40.1	23.1	13.8	1.6	1.6	8.6
20,000–39,999	1.0	4.9	40.6	46.4	53.6	24.7	14.2	10.4	4.3	13.0
40,000–59,999	1.0	7.6	65.2	73.9	26.1	3.9	13.4	1.5	7.3	—
60,000 or more	0.0	8.9	44.8	53.8	46.2	1.1	34.7	10.4	0.0	—
Independent	0.5	2.6	49.6	52.6	47.4	26.3	15.1	3.5	2.4	9.5
Parental educational attainment										
Less than high school	0.5	1.6	50.2	52.3	47.7	29.5	10.1	3.1	5.0	11.0
High school graduate	0.4	2.1	54.0	56.5	43.5	21.1	15.7	4.7	1.9	10.6
Some postsecondary	0.2	7.9	49.4	57.6	42.4	16.0	21.6	1.3	3.6	10.1
Bachelor's degree	2.1	5.6	30.4	38.1	61.9	30.4	20.0	8.2	3.3	—
Advanced degree	1.1	26.5	46.4	74.0	26.0	7.7	4.2	13.4	0.6	—

Table 11-2 Percentage distribution of 1989–90 beginning postsecondary students seeking a certificate at 2-year and less-than-2-year institutions, by persistence and attainment as of spring 1994 and selected characteristics - Continued

Selected characteristics	Completed a degree				Did not complete a degree					
	Highest degree complete			Total any degree	Total no degree	Number of months enrolled ^a				Average months enrolled
	Bach- elor's	Asso- ciate's	Certi- ficate			Less than 9 months	9–18 months	19–27 months or more		
High school diploma or equivalency status										
High school diploma	0.5	4.9	50.7	56.1	44.0	21.2	15.4	4.3	3.1	11.0
GED/Equivalency certificate	0.6	1.5	45.0	47.1	52.9	30.4	16.4	5.1	1.1	8.4
None	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diploma/delayed entry status ^b										
Diploma, did not delay	0.9	8.2	49.8	58.9	41.1	15.4	15.8	5.8	4.1	13.2
Diploma, delayed entry	0.2	2.9	51.2	54.3	45.7	24.7	15.2	3.3	2.5	9.9
No diploma	0.6	1.4	44.7	46.7	53.3	30.2	17.1	4.9	1.1	8.3
Expected educational attainment										
Less than 2 years of postsecondary education	0.4	1.4	56.2	58.0	42.0	24.0	10.6	6.7	0.7	9.5
2 to 3 years of postsecondary education	0.2	4.0	49.8	53.9	46.1	25.0	13.8	3.2	4.1	10.9
Bachelor's degree or higher	1.0	7.7	38.2	46.9	53.1	21.7	23.7	3.1	4.6	11.5
Level of first institution										
2-year	0.2	6.0	37.9	44.0	56.0	27.2	19.2	5.3	4.3	11.2
Less-than-2-year	0.8	2.9	60.0	63.7	36.4	18.8	12.6	3.5	1.5	9.5
Enrollment status, first term										
Full-time	0.7	4.5	56.3	61.5	38.5	23.1	11.6	1.8	2.0	8.8
Less than full-time	0.0	2.8	38.5	41.4	58.7	22.8	23.8	7.5	4.5	12.3
Enrollment status in 1989–90										
Exclusively part-time	0.3	0.3	41.1	41.6	58.4	21.4	22.7	10.3	4.0	12.5
Mixed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Exclusively full-time	0.7	5.9	52.1	58.7	41.3	22.0	13.8	2.6	2.9	10.3
Field of study in 1989–90										
Humanities and social scienc	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Physical and life sciences	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Engineering, math, and com	0.0	7.0	58.6	65.6	34.4	9.0	24.4	0.0	1.0	—
Education	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Business and management	0.8	3.6	58.6	63.0	37.0	10.5	15.2	6.5	4.9	14.5
Health	0.9	4.5	9.5	57.5	42.5	6.0	9.5	3.2	6.2	—
Vocational/technical	0.0	2.1	66.9	69.0	31.0	13.9	12.4	3.8	0.9	10.9
Employed while enrolled ^c										
None	0.0	1.0	56.9	57.9	42.1	25.8	14.6	1.3	0.4	7.0
1–50 percent	1.1	3.6	67.5	72.1	27.9	10.3	9.8	6.6	1.3	12.9
More than 50 percent	0.4	6.0	42.1	48.4	51.6	24.4	18.6	4.6	4.0	11.1
Hours worked per week while enrolled										
None	0.7	1.5	58.8	61.0	39.1	20.7	14.5	1.4	2.4	9.5
1–20 hours	0.8	2.5	71.6	74.8	25.2	12.7	10.6	0.7	1.2	10.7
More than 20 hours	0.3	6.2	40.6	47.2	52.8	25.6	17.3	6.7	3.3	10.9
Received financial aid in 1989–90										
No	0.4	5.8	39.3	45.5	54.5	26.7	18.3	7.1	2.4	10.2
Yes	0.6	3.1	57.9	61.6	38.4	19.5	13.6	2.2	3.1	10.8

Table 11-2 Percentage distribution of 1989–90 beginning postsecondary students seeking a certificate at 2-year and less-than-2-year institutions, by persistence and attainment as of spring 1994 and selected characteristics - Continued

Selected characteristics	Completed a degree				Did not complete a degree					Average months enrolled
	Highest degree complete			Total any degree	Total no degree	Number of months enrolled [†]				
	Bachelor's	Associate's	Certificate			Less than 9 months	9–18 months	19–27 months	28 or more months	
Received grant in 1989–90										
No	0.5	5.6	43.3	49.5	50.6	25.8	16.6	5.9	2.3	10.1
Yes	0.5	2.6	58.0	61.1	38.9	18.6	14.5	2.3	3.5	11.3
Received loan in 1989–90										
No	0.5	5.0	43.6	49.0	51.0	24.5	17.3	5.6	3.6	11.0
Yes	0.5	2.8	63.8	67.1	32.9	18.6	12.1	1.4	0.9	8.6
Grade point average in 1989–90										
Below 2.75	0.2	3.3	46.0	49.5	50.5	17.6	21.9	9.6	1.4	11.8
2.75 to 3.24	2.1	9.9	36.6	48.6	51.4	17.9	25.4	5.8	2.4	10.8
3.25 or higher	0.5	3.0	61.9	65.4	34.6	21.8	8.2	0.2	4.3	10.6
Academic integration in 1989–90 [‡]										
Low	0.4	5.9	31.6	37.9	62.1	32.2	17.0	3.6	9.2	11.7
Moderate	0.5	2.3	46.4	49.2	50.8	25.4	16.1	7.5	1.7	10.6
High	0.5	5.2	58.1	63.8	36.2	17.7	14.7	2.2	1.6	9.7
Social integration in 1989–90 [‡]										
Low	0.3	1.3	37.4	38.9	61.1	34.9	17.4	4.5	4.3	9.7
Moderate	0.5	6.0	51.3	57.8	42.2	19.0	15.5	5.3	2.4	11.1
High	0.7	3.2	59.7	63.6	36.4	18.5	13.6	2.0	2.3	10.3
Self rating of academic ability										
Above average	0.0	3.0	52.4	55.4	44.6	21.6	14.9	6.8	1.3	10.3
Average or below	0.6	4.6	48.4	53.7	46.4	23.4	15.9	3.8	3.3	10.6

— Too few sample observations for a reliable estimate.

[†] Includes students who are still enrolled.

[‡] Limited to students seeking a certificate at 2-year and less-than-2-year institutions.

[§] Students were considered to have a diploma only if they had a regular high school diploma. Students with a GED or other high school credentials were considered to have no diploma.

^{||} Percentage of months enrolled in which the student was also employed in 1989–94.

[¶] Examines whether the student attended career-related lectures, participated in study groups with other students, talked about academic matters with faculty, or met with an advisor concerning academic plans.

^{||} Examines whether the students had contact with faculty outside of class, went places with friends from school, or participated in student assistance centers/programs or school clubs.

NOTE: The number of total cases in a row is used as the denominator in the calculation of the percentage distribution, whereas the number of cases within the cell is used as the denominator in the calculation of averages. If the number of cases in the cell is below 30, a low number will result, despite available estimates for the row as a whole.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1990 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:90/94).

Table 11-3 Percentage distribution of 1989–90 beginning postsecondary students seeking an associate's degree or certificate, by selected characteristics

Selected characteristics	Degree attempted	
	Associate's degree	Certificate
Total ¹	30.9	16.3
Sex		
Male	44.7	38.0
Female	55.3	62.0
Age as of 12/31/89		
18 years or younger	43.7	28.2
19 years	19.9	13.3
20 years or older	36.5	58.6
Race/ethnicity		
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0.5	0.9
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.3	3.5
Black	9.9	14.7
Hispanic	9.5	8.6
White	78.8	72.3
Marital status in 1989–90		
Never married	77.3	62.3
Married	16.4	25.7
Divorced/separated/widowed	6.2	12.0
Number of children in 1989–90		
None	82.4	62.2
One	7.4	17.2
Two	6.5	13.7
Three or more	3.7	6.9
Socioeconomic status		
Lowest quartile	17.3	34.0
Middle two quartiles	53.3	53.3
Highest quartile	29.4	12.7
Income		
Dependent		
Less than \$20,000	16.9	16.0
20,000–39,999	24.3	14.3
40,000–59,999	17.4	7.1
60,000 or more	8.0	5.2
Independent	33.6	57.4
Parental educational attainment		
Less than high school	12.1	23.2
High school graduate	41.4	41.4
Some postsecondary	21.2	22.6
Bachelor's degree	13.7	9.0
Advanced degree	11.7	3.8

Table 11-3 Percentage distribution of 1989–90 beginning postsecondary students seeking an associate's degree or certificate, by selected characteristics - Continued

Selected characteristics	Degree attempted	
	Associate's degree	Certificate
High school diploma or equivalency status		
High school diploma	91.3	83.2
GED/Equivalency certificate	8.7	16.4
None	0.0	0.4
Diploma/delayed entry status ^a		
Diploma, did not delay	57.9	31.4
Diploma, delayed entry	33.4	51.8
No diploma	8.7	16.8
Expected educational attainment		
Less than 2 years of postsecondary education	4.7	44.3
2 to 3 years of postsecondary education	24.0	22.9
Bachelor's degree or higher	71.3	32.8
Level of first institution		
2-year	100.0	46.7
Less-than-2-year	(^b)	53.3
Enrollment status, first term		
Full-time	58.3	63.6
Less than full-time	41.7	36.4
Field of study in 1989–90		
Humanities and social sciences	19.0	5.6
Physical and life sciences	3.4	0.0
Engineering, math, and computers	13.6	8.3
Education	6.2	2.5
Business and management	30.5	30.1
Health	10.5	11.2
Vocational/technical	16.7	42.4
Employed while enrolled ^c		
None	6.8	21.6
1–50 percent	17.6	18.0
More than 50 percent	75.6	60.4
Hours worked per week while enrolled		
None	16.9	32.0
1–20 hours	18.6	10.5
More than 20 hours	64.5	57.5

Table 11-3 Percentage distribution of 1989–90 beginning postsecondary students seeking an associate's degree or certificate, by selected characteristics - Continued

Selected characteristics	Degree attempted	
	Associate's degree	Certificate
Received financial aid in 1989–90		
No	64.7	44.3
Yes	35.3	55.7
Received grant in 1989–90		
No	69.3	56.9
Yes	30.7	43.1
Received loan in 1989–90		
No	89.0	69.8
Yes	11.0	30.2
Grade point average in 1989–90		
Below 2.75	57.5	38.7
2.75 to 3.24	20.1	19.5
3.25 or higher	22.5	41.8
Academic integration in 1989–90 ¹		
Low	12.6	16.1
Moderate	42.2	38.1
High	45.3	45.8
Social integration in 1989–90 ²		
Low	22.7	25.8
Moderate	55.9	54.2
High	21.4	20.0
Self rating of academic ability		
Above average	26.0	22.9
Average or below	74.0	77.1

¹Limited to students seeking an associate's degree at 2-year institutions or a certificate at 2-year and less-than-2-year institutions.

²Students were considered to have a diploma only if they had a regular high school diploma. Students with a GED or other high school credentials were considered to have no diploma.

³Not applicable.

⁴Percentage of months enrolled in which the student was also employed in 1989–94.

⁵Examines whether the student attended career-related lectures, participated in study groups with other students, talked about academic matters with faculty, or met with an advisor concerning academic plans.

⁶Examines whether the students had contact with faculty outside of class, went places with friends from school, or participated in student assistance centers/programs or school clubs.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1990 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:90/94).

Table S11 Standard errors for the text table in *Indicator 11*

Enrollment characteristics	Completed a degree				Total no degree	Did not complete a degree				
	Highest degree completed			Total any degree		Number of months enrolled				Average months enrolled
	Bach- elor's	Asso- ciate's	Certi- ficate			Less than 9 months	9-18 months	19-27 months	28 months or more	
Degree working toward in 1989-90										
Associate's degree	1.3	1.8	1.6	2.5	2.5	1.7	2.2	1.4	1.9	0.9
Certificate	0.2	1.1	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.3	2.2	1.3	0.9	0.8
Enrollment status, first term										
Full-time										
Associate's degree	2.1	2.7	1.9	3.2	3.2	1.6	2.2	2.1	2.2	1.2
Certificate	0.3	1.2	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.5	1.9	0.8	0.8	0.7
Less than full-time										
Associate's degree	1.3	3.1	2.8	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.7	2.1	3.2	1.4
Certificate	0.0	2.3	6.2	6.1	6.1	5.2	5.6	3.3	2.3	1.7
Delayed entry status										
Did not delay										
Associate's degree	2.1	2.5	2.0	3.1	3.1	1.8	2.3	1.7	2.6	1.6
Certificate	0.4	3.0	5.3	5.2	5.2	3.7	3.9	3.1	2.0	1.9
Delayed entry by at least one year										
Associate's degree	0.8	2.6	2.9	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.9	3.0	3.5	1.4
Certificate	0.2	1.1	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.4	2.8	1.4	1.2	1.2

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1990 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:90/94).

Table S11-1 Standard errors for table 11-1

Selected characteristics	Completed a degree				Total no degree	Did not complete a degree				
	Highest degree completed			Total any degree		Number of months enrolled				Average months enrolled
	Bachelor's	Associate's	Certificate			Less than 9 months	9–18 months	19–27 months	28 months or more	
Total	1.3	1.8	1.6	2.5	2.5	1.7	2.2	1.4	1.9	0.9
Sex										
Male	1.8	2.5	2.6	3.5	3.5	2.5	2.8	2.3	3.1	1.5
Female	1.8	2.9	2.0	3.4	3.4	2.2	2.9	1.8	2.1	1.1
Age as of 12/31/89										
18 years or younger	2.6	3.1	2.0	3.6	3.6	1.9	2.4	2.0	2.7	1.7
19 years	1.2	4.9	3.9	5.3	5.3	4.2	3.9	2.8	4.3	2.2
20 years or older	0.9	2.4	3.0	3.7	3.7	3.4	4.2	2.8	3.0	1.4
Race/ethnicity										
American Indian/Alaskan Native	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Black	3.3	5.2	5.8	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.7	4.6	4.6	3.0
Hispanic	4.5	7.3	5.7	9.0	9.0	1.9	7.5	7.1	8.2	—
White	1.3	2.1	1.8	2.8	2.8	2.0	2.3	1.5	2.1	1.0
Marital status in 1989–90										
Never married	1.7	2.1	1.8	2.7	2.7	1.8	2.0	1.6	2.3	1.1
Married	1.9	4.3	4.1	5.8	5.8	4.5	6.3	3.5	4.1	2.0
Divorced/separated/widowed	0.0	1.7	9.1	9.0	9.0	10.0	8.3	7.8	5.7	—
Number of children in 1989–90										
None	1.6	2.1	1.7	2.7	2.7	1.8	2.3	1.6	2.2	1.1
One	0.5	5.8	8.1	8.5	8.5	7.0	9.2	2.9	5.1	—
Two	1.2	5.8	7.0	8.7	8.7	5.1	11.0	6.7	6.9	—
Three or more	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Socioeconomic status										
Lowest quartile	1.5	4.0	4.2	5.9	5.9	4.6	5.8	2.6	4.2	2.1
Middle two quartiles	1.5	2.4	2.2	3.5	3.5	2.2	2.5	2.2	2.8	1.3
Highest quartile	3.2	3.7	2.9	4.2	4.2	3.0	3.5	2.5	3.3	1.9
Income										
Dependent										
Less than \$20,000	3.1	4.3	3.6	5.6	5.6	4.3	5.0	2.7	4.3	2.4
20,000–39,999	2.9	4.1	3.5	5.3	5.3	3.9	3.2	3.4	3.6	2.2
40,000–59,999	3.8	5.6	3.9	5.8	5.8	3.3	4.4	2.8	5.4	2.6
60,000 or more	4.3	6.3	2.7	7.2	7.2	3.0	6.5	5.9	7.2	3.5
Independent	0.9	2.7	3.1	4.0	4.0	3.5	4.2	2.6	3.8	1.6
Parental educational attainment										
Less than high school	1.6	4.7	5.2	6.6	6.6	5.3	7.3	4.9	5.5	2.5
High school graduate	2.0	2.8	2.6	3.7	3.7	2.9	3.0	2.5	2.8	1.5
Some postsecondary	3.0	4.1	2.8	5.3	5.3	3.5	5.0	3.4	4.4	2.0
Bachelor's degree	2.7	6.6	6.1	7.0	7.0	4.3	4.9	2.1	4.7	3.1
Advanced degree	5.0	6.5	2.1	6.6	6.6	3.3	6.0	3.3	6.4	3.6

Table S11-1 Standard errors for table 11-1 - Continued

Selected characteristics	Completed a degree				Total no degree	Did not complete a degree				
	Highest degree completed			Total any degree		Number of months enrolled				Average months enrolled
	Bach- elor's	Asso- ciate's	Certi- ficate			Less than 9 months	9–18 months	19–27 months	28 months or more	
High school diploma or equivalency status										
High school diploma	1.4	1.9	1.7	2.5	2.5	1.8	2.0	1.5	2.1	1.0
GED/Equivalency certificate	1.6	4.6	5.9	7.2	7.2	5.5	9.0	3.5	3.5	1.8
None	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diploma/delayed entry status										
Diploma, did not delay	2.1	2.5	2.0	3.1	3.1	1.8	2.3	1.7	2.6	1.6
Diploma, delayed entry	0.8	2.6	2.9	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.9	3.0	3.5	1.4
No diploma	1.6	4.6	5.9	7.2	7.2	5.5	9.0	3.5	3.5	1.8
Expected educational attainment										
Less than 2 years of postsecondary education	1.2	6.7	6.2	8.4	8.4	8.4	9.7	2.1	9.0	5.4
2 to 3 years of postsecondary education	1.5	3.9	4.0	5.2	5.2	3.2	4.0	3.0	5.0	1.8
Bachelor's degree or higher	1.8	2.3	2.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	2.7	1.9	2.2	1.2
Enrollment status, first term										
Full-time	2.1	2.7	1.9	3.2	3.2	1.6	2.2	2.1	2.2	1.2
Less than full-time	1.3	3.1	2.8	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.7	2.1	3.2	1.4
Enrollment status in 1989–90										
Exclusively part-time	1.1	3.7	3.5	5.1	5.1	4.0	4.6	3.3	4.4	1.7
Mixed	3.5	7.0	4.9	7.7	7.7	0.0	6.9	3.5	6.0	—
Exclusively full-time	2.2	2.7	2.2	3.4	3.4	1.8	2.2	2.0	2.7	1.4
Field of study in 1989–90										
Humanities and social sciences	3.5	5.4	3.4	6.1	6.1	3.6	4.6	3.4	5.1	3.3
Physical and life sciences	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Engineering, math, and computers	2.3	5.1	5.3	6.9	6.9	5.4	6.1	2.2	6.1	2.9
Education	8.8	10.7	4.3	10.6	10.6	5.4	2.4	9.4	4.3	—
Business and management	2.4	3.5	2.8	4.1	4.1	2.4	3.9	3.3	3.6	1.6
Health	3.3	7.7	8.4	9.4	9.4	0.0	6.7	6.4	6.5	—
Vocational/technical	2.8	5.0	4.3	6.7	6.7	4.6	4.8	4.5	6.3	2.1
Employed while enrolled										
None	2.2	6.8	7.1	8.9	8.9	8.4	6.1	6.1	3.4	1.9
1–50 percent	2.9	4.6	5.0	5.0	5.0	2.0	3.6	2.3	3.8	2.5
More than 50 percent	1.6	2.1	1.7	2.9	2.9	2.1	2.7	1.7	2.4	1.1
Hours worked per week while enrolled										
None	2.3	4.1	5.1	5.9	5.9	4.0	3.4	4.3	3.6	1.6
1–20 hours	3.4	4.4	4.0	5.6	5.6	2.3	4.0	2.5	4.5	2.6
More than 20 hours	1.5	2.5	1.9	3.0	3.0	2.3	3.1	1.7	2.4	1.1

Table S11-1 Standard errors for table 11-1 - Continued

Selected characteristics	Completed a degree				Did not complete a degree					
	Highest degree completed			Total any degree	Total no degree	Number of months enrolled				Average months enrolled
	Bach- elor's	Asso- ciate's	Certi- ficate			Less than 9 months	9–18 months	19–27 months	28 months or more	
Received financial aid in 1989–90										
No	1.5	2.4	2.3	3.3	3.3	2.4	3.0	1.9	2.3	1.1
Yes	1.9	3.0	2.4	3.4	3.4	2.0	2.8	1.9	3.1	1.6
Received grant in 1989–90										
No	1.4	2.2	2.1	3.1	3.1	2.3	2.9	1.8	2.2	1.0
Yes	2.1	3.2	2.6	3.6	3.6	1.8	3.1	2.0	3.5	1.8
Received loan in 1989–90										
No	1.4	2.0	1.8	2.8	2.8	1.9	2.4	1.6	2.1	1.0
Yes	2.4	4.5	2.9	5.0	5.0	2.5	5.4	2.0	3.9	1.4
Grade point average in 1989–90										
Below 2.75	1.8	2.7	2.6	3.8	3.8	2.6	2.6	2.5	3.1	1.4
2.75 to 3.24	3.4	5.0	2.7	5.6	5.6	4.3	5.2	3.5	4.5	2.4
3.25 or higher	3.4	5.1	4.2	5.6	5.6	3.2	4.4	2.5	4.1	2.3
Academic integration in 1989–90										
Low	1.6	4.2	4.0	5.8	5.8	7.4	6.5	0.5	6.7	2.8
Moderate	2.3	3.0	2.6	4.1	4.1	2.7	3.5	2.5	2.4	1.4
High	1.8	2.9	2.4	3.6	3.6	2.1	2.8	2.2	3.0	1.5
Social integration in 1989–90										
Low	1.7	3.2	3.2	4.3	4.3	4.7	4.6	3.3	4.1	1.8
Moderate	1.7	2.8	2.1	2.9	2.9	1.9	2.5	2.1	2.4	1.2
High	3.3	4.3	3.2	5.8	5.8	2.8	4.1	2.4	4.4	2.5
Self rating of academic ability										
Above average	3.3	4.0	3.4	4.2	4.2	3.1	2.9	2.1	3.6	2.4
Average or below	1.3	2.0	1.8	2.8	2.8	2.2	2.7	1.7	2.1	1.0

— Not available.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1990 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:90/94).

Table S11-2 Standard errors for table 11-2

Selected characteristics	Completed a degree				Total no degree	Did not complete a degree					
	Highest degree completed			Total any degree		Total no degree	Number of months enrolled				Average months enrolled
	Bach- elor's	Asso- ciate's	Certi- ficate				Less than 9 months	9–18 months	19–27 months	28 months or more	
Total	0.2	1.1	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.3	2.2	1.3	0.9	0.8	
Sex											
Male	0.2	1.3	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.3	2.8	2.1	1.0	0.9	
Female	0.3	1.6	3.7	3.6	3.6	2.5	3.3	1.7	1.3	1.2	
Age as of 12/31/89											
18 years or younger	0.5	3.3	5.5	5.6	5.6	4.3	4.3	3.5	2.2	1.9	
19 years	0.3	1.7	6.7	6.4	6.4	4.4	4.8	2.5	1.1	1.5	
20 years or older	0.2	0.9	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.2	2.6	1.3	1.1	1.0	
Race/ethnicity											
American Indian/Alaskan Native	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Black	0.6	0.9	6.4	6.5	6.5	4.7	6.6	2.2	3.2	2.3	
Hispanic	1.3	0.8	9.5	9.6	9.6	5.3	1.7	9.5	1.2	3.3	
White	0.2	1.5	3.5	3.3	3.3	2.9	2.7	1.3	0.8	0.7	
Marital status in 1989–90											
Never married	0.3	1.7	3.8	3.7	3.7	2.9	2.8	2.0	1.1	1.1	
Married	0.3	0.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.2	4.5	1.3	2.5	2.1	
Divorced/separated/widowed	0.0	1.9	6.2	6.3	6.3	5.7	5.5	1.5	0.3	1.2	
Number of children in 1989–90											
None	0.2	1.8	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.1	3.2	2.0	1.1	1.1	
One	0.5	1.3	6.3	6.3	6.3	5.0	4.1	2.7	3.3	2.8	
Two	0.0	1.0	6.8	6.9	6.9	6.9	4.7	2.5	0.9	1.1	
Three or more	1.4	1.7	9.1	9.0	9.0	6.7	8.9	0.7	5.1	—	
Socioeconomic status											
Lowest quartile	0.3	0.5	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.2	3.3	2.3	1.8	1.5	
Middle two quartiles	0.2	1.7	4.0	3.7	3.7	3.0	2.6	1.7	1.2	1.2	
Highest quartile	0.6	4.7	7.5	7.6	7.6	4.8	7.2	4.2	0.8	1.4	
Income											
Dependent											
Less than \$20,000	0.0	4.7	6.9	6.7	6.7	5.7	4.7	0.8	0.9	1.3	
20,000–39,999	0.7	2.0	7.0	7.2	7.2	6.6	4.5	6.2	3.2	2.9	
40,000–59,999	0.7	5.7	10.4	10.2	10.2	1.8	9.9	1.1	5.5	—	
60,000 or more	0.0	7.6	13.0	13.3	13.3	1.2	13.3	7.9	0.0	—	
Independent	0.3	1.0	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.1	2.5	1.4	1.1	1.0	
Parental educational attainment											
Less than high school	0.5	0.7	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.2	3.1	2.3	3.0	2.4	
High school graduate	0.3	0.7	4.6	4.5	4.5	3.5	3.3	2.7	1.3	1.6	
Some postsecondary	0.2	4.1	6.6	6.0	6.0	4.3	5.5	0.8	2.1	1.4	
Bachelor's degree	1.3	3.1	7.6	8.5	8.5	9.3	9.0	4.6	2.0	—	
Advanced degree	1.2	14.1	13.5	11.7	11.7	4.1	2.6	11.1	0.7	—	

Table S11-2 Standard errors for table 11-2 - Continued

Selected characteristics	Completed a degree				Total no degree	Did not complete a degree				
	Highest degree completed			Total any degree		Number of months enrolled				Average months enrolled
	Bach- elor's	Asso- ciate's	Certi- ficate			Less than 9 months	9–18 months	19–27 months	28 months or more	
High school diploma or equivalency status										
High school diploma	0.2	1.3	3.2	3.1	3.1	2.6	2.2	1.5	1.1	1.0
GED/Equivalency certificate	0.6	1.5	6.0	6.2	6.2	5.2	5.4	2.6	0.7	0.8
None	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diploma/delayed entry status										
Diploma, did not delay	0.4	3.0	5.3	5.2	5.2	3.7	3.9	3.1	2.0	1.9
Diploma, delayed entry	0.2	1.1	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.4	2.8	1.4	1.2	1.2
No diploma	0.6	1.1	5.9	6.0	6.0	5.1	5.3	2.5	0.7	0.8
Expected educational attainment										
Less than 2 years of postsecondary education	0.3	0.5	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.5	2.6	2.7	0.4	1.1
2 to 3 years of postsecondary education	0.2	2.1	6.1	6.5	6.5	5.6	4.3	2.3	2.9	2.4
Bachelor's degree or higher	0.5	3.0	4.5	4.9	4.9	3.6	4.6	1.7	2.1	1.4
Level of first institution										
2-year	0.1	2.1	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.2	4.1	2.4	1.9	1.4
Less-than-2-year	0.3	1.0	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.2	1.8	1.1	0.5	0.6
Enrollment status, first term										
Full-time	0.3	1.2	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.5	1.9	0.8	0.8	0.7
Less than full-time	0.0	2.3	6.2	6.1	6.1	5.2	5.6	3.3	2.3	1.7
Enrollment status in 1989–90										
Exclusively part-time	0.3	0.2	6.3	6.3	6.3	5.6	4.5	4.1	2.3	1.7
Mixed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Exclusively full-time	0.3	1.8	3.7	3.3	3.3	2.7	2.3	1.1	1.2	1.1
Field of study in 1989–90										
Humanities and social sciences	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Physical and life sciences	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Engineering, math, and compute	0.0	6.0	9.9	9.9	9.9	6.1	9.6	0.0	0.9	—
Education	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Business and management	0.5	1.8	5.8	5.7	5.7	3.4	4.4	3.8	2.6	2.6
Health	9.3	4.5	9.5	10.0	10.0	6.0	9.5	3.2	6.2	—
Vocational/technical	0.0	0.8	4.4	4.3	4.3	3.6	2.7	1.4	0.4	1.1
Employed while enrolled										
None	0.0	0.6	5.3	5.3	5.3	4.5	4.0	0.8	0.4	0.6
1–50 percent	0.6	1.4	5.3	5.2	5.2	3.0	3.1	3.4	0.8	1.4
More than 50 percent	0.2	1.9	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.4	3.3	1.9	1.5	1.2
Hours worked per week while enrolled										
None	0.4	0.5	4.3	4.3	4.3	3.4	2.9	0.6	1.5	1.6
1–20 hours	0.6	1.2	6.3	6.4	6.4	3.7	5.7	0.5	0.7	1.2
More than 20 hours	0.2	1.9	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.2	2.2	1.3	1.1
Received financial aid in 1989–90										
No	0.2	2.2	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.6	4.1	2.6	1.4	1.2
Yes	0.3	0.9	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.1	2.1	0.9	1.2	1.2

Table S11-2 Standard errors for table 11-2 - Continued

Selected characteristics	Completed a degree				Total no degree	Did not complete a degree				
	Highest degree completed			Total any degree		Number of months enrolled				Average months enrolled
	Bach- elor's	Asso- ciate's	Certi- ficate			Less than 9 months	9-18 months	19-27 months	28 months or more	
Received grant in 1989-90										
No	0.2	1.9	4.0	4.1	4.1	3.6	3.3	2.1	1.1	1.0
Yes	0.3	0.7	3.3	3.3	3.3	2.3	2.6	1.1	1.5	1.4
Received loan in 1989-90										
No	0.2	1.5	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.1	3.0	1.8	1.3	1.1
Yes	0.3	0.8	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.0	2.3	0.5	0.5	0.5
Grade point average in 1989-90										
Below 2.75	0.2	2.2	6.5	6.5	6.5	4.3	5.5	4.9	0.7	1.4
2.75 to 3.24	1.3	7.6	7.0	8.5	8.5	7.6	8.5	4.7	1.9	1.7
3.25 or higher	0.4	1.4	5.5	5.3	5.3	4.9	2.7	0.2	2.9	3.1
Academic integration in 1989-90										
Low	0.4	3.6	5.9	6.3	6.3	6.7	5.7	2.2	4.4	2.4
Moderate	0.3	0.7	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.0	3.5	3.1	1.4	1.5
High	0.3	2.0	4.0	3.4	3.4	2.7	2.8	0.8	0.6	0.7
Social integration in 1989-90										
Low	0.3	0.5	4.7	4.7	4.7	5.0	4.1	2.2	2.5	1.6
Moderate	0.3	2.0	4.3	4.0	4.0	3.0	2.9	2.1	1.2	1.2
High	0.5	1.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	4.0	4.0	1.0	0.9	1.1
Self rating of academic ability										
Above average	0.0	1.1	5.7	5.8	5.8	4.4	4.7	4.2	0.6	1.5
Average or below	0.2	1.4	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.6	2.4	1.2	1.2	1.0

— Not available.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1990 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:90/94).

Table S11-3 Standard errors for table 11-3

Selected characteristics	Degree attempted	
	Associate's degree	Certificate
Total	1.5	1.1
Sex		
Male	2.5	2.9
Female	2.5	2.9
Age as of 12/31/89		
18 years or younger	2.4	2.6
19 years	2.1	1.8
20 years or older	2.5	2.7
Race/ethnicity		
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0.4	0.5
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.5	1.0
Black	1.6	2.3
Hispanic	1.7	1.7
White	2.4	2.8
Marital status in 1989–90		
Never married	2.3	2.7
Married	1.8	2.4
Divorced/separated/widowed	1.5	1.6
Number of children in 1989–90		
None	1.7	2.7
One	1.3	2.0
Two	1.3	1.7
Three or more	0.9	1.2
Socioeconomic status		
Lowest quartile	1.9	2.5
Middle two quartiles	2.6	2.4
Highest quartile	2.3	1.8
Income		
Dependent		
Less than \$20,000	1.8	2.0
20,000–39,999	2.2	1.9
40,000–59,999	1.9	1.4
60,000 or more	1.5	1.4
Independent	2.4	2.7
Parental educational attainment		
Less than high school	1.6	2.4
High school graduate	2.6	2.6
Some postsecondary	2.0	2.4
Bachelor's degree	1.8	1.6
Advanced degree	1.8	1.0

Table S11-3 Standard errors for table 11-3 - Continued

Selected characteristics	Degree attempted	
	Associate's degree	Certificate
High school diploma or equivalency status		
High school diploma	1.4	1.8
GED/Equivalency certificate	1.4	1.8
None	0.0	0.2
Diploma/delayed entry status		
Diploma, did not delay	2.4	2.7
Diploma, delayed entry	2.4	2.7
No diploma	1.4	1.8
Expected educational attainment		
Less than 2 years of postsecondary education	0.9	2.8
2 to 3 years of postsecondary education	2.2	2.4
Bachelor's degree or higher	2.3	2.5
Level of first institution		
2-year	0.0	3.5
Less-than-2-year	—	3.5
Enrollment status, first term		
Full-time	3.1	3.4
Less than full-time	3.1	3.4
Field of study in 1989–90		
Humanities and social sciences	2.2	1.7
Physical and life sciences	0.9	0.0
Engineering, math, and computers	1.9	1.9
Education	1.2	1.5
Business and management	2.4	3.4
Health	1.8	1.9
Vocational/technical	2.2	3.7
Employed while enrolled		
None	1.2	2.2
1–50 percent	1.9	1.9
More than 50 percent	2.1	2.6
Hours worked per week while enrolled		
None	1.8	2.4
1–20 hours	1.8	1.4
More than 20 hours	2.3	2.6

Table S11-3 Standard errors for table 11-3 - Continued

Selected characteristics	Degree attempted	
	Associate's degree	Certificate
Received financial aid in 1989-90		
No	2.4	3.1
Yes	2.4	3.1
Received grant in 1989-90		
No	2.2	2.7
Yes	2.2	2.7
Received loan in 1989-90		
No	1.3	2.8
Yes	1.3	2.8
Grade point average in 1989-90		
Below 2.75	2.4	3.7
2.75 to 3.24	2.3	3.2
3.25 or higher	2.1	4.1
Academic integration in 1989-90		
Low	1.6	2.1
Moderate	2.2	2.5
High	2.1	2.7
Social integration in 1989-90		
Low	2.4	2.5
Moderate	2.7	2.7
High	2.2	1.8
Self rating of academic ability		
Above average	2.2	2.2
Average or below	2.2	2.2

— Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1990 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:90/94).

Enrollment characteristics	Completed a degree				Did not complete a degree					Average months enrolled
	Highest degree completed			Total any degree	Total no degree	Number of months enrolled ¹				
	Bachelor's	Associate's	Certificate			Less than 9 months	9-18 months	19-27 months	28 months or more	
Degree working toward in 1989-90 ²										
Associate's degree	7.5	23.7	11.4	42.6	57.4	12.8	20.5	9.4	14.8	19.2
Certificate	0.5	4.3	49.7	54.5	45.5	22.7	15.7	4.4	2.8	10.5
Enrollment status, first term										
Full-time										
Associate's degree	12.0	30.0	9.7	51.6	48.4	9.4	17.6	9.9	11.5	19.0
Certificate	0.7	4.5	56.3	61.5	38.5	23.1	11.6	1.8	2.0	8.8
Less than full-time										
Associate's degree	2.1	15.5	13.1	30.7	69.3	16.5	23.7	9.2	20.0	20.0
Certificate	0.0	2.8	38.5	41.4	58.7	22.8	23.8	7.5	4.5	12.3
Delayed entry status ³										
Did not delay										
Associate's degree	11.9	32.1	10.0	54.0	46.0	9.1	13.4	7.6	16.0	22.5
Certificate	0.9	8.2	49.8	58.9	41.1	15.4	15.8	5.8	4.1	13.2
Delayed entry by at least 1 year										
Associate's degree	1.4	12.2	12.9	26.5	73.5	18.7	26.5	13.2	15.2	17.0
Certificate	0.2	2.9	51.2	54.3	45.7	24.7	15.2	3.3	2.5	9.9